

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An image reading method, comprising the steps of:
 reading photoelectrically an original image with an
 image sensor by separating it into three primary colors;
 and

converting image signals of the three primary colors
 outputted from the image sensor into digital signals,
 wherein light quantity of light which is incident on said
 image sensor is balanced with every color in accordance
 with an original type.

2. The image reading method according to claim 1,
 wherein balancing said light quantity with every color is
 formed by changing an optical balance is an optical system
 from a light source to the image sensor including an
 original.

3. The image reading method according to claim 1,
 wherein said original type includes at least a color
 negative film and a color reversal film.

4. An image reading apparatus comprising:
 an image sensor which separates into three primary
 colors light bearing an image of an original and

photoelectrically reads said light, an original type acquiring means for detecting or setting an original type of said original and light quantity balance adjusting means for catching with every color a balance of light quantity of said light that is incident on said image sensor in accordance with the original type obtained by said original type acquiring means.

5. The image reading apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said light quantity balance adjusting means changes an optical balance in an optical system from a light source to the image sensor including said original.

6. The image reading apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said light quantity balance adjusting means changes the optical balance in the optical system from the light source to the image sensor including said original and decreases color mixing in the three primary colors.

7. The image reading apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said light quantity balance adjusting means includes an optical filter.

8. The image reading apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said original type includes at least a color negative film and a color reversal film.

9. The image reading apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said light quantity balance adjusting means will not operate in a reference type of the original.

Sub A3 } 10. The image reading apparatus according to claim 4, further comprising:

spectral sensitivity changing means for changing a spectral sensitivity distribution of said light in accordance with the original type after the balance of the light quantity is adjusted with every color, as well as said respective means.

11. The image reading apparatus according to claim 10, wherein said spectral sensitivity changing means is peak value changing means of said spectral sensitivity distribution in accordance with the original type.

Sub A4 } 12. The image reading apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said peak value changing means of said spectral sensitivity distribution changes a peak value of the

spectral sensitivity distribution in an optical system from a light source to the image sensor including said original.

13. The image reading apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said light quantity balance adjusting means and said peak value changing means of said spectral sensitivity distribution are integrated into a single optical unit.

14. The image reading apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said peak value changing means of said spectral sensitivity distribution will not operate in a reference type of the original.

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